



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WECAFC-FIRMS Data workshop

Turks & Caicos Islands, an overview on the
Fisheries and Marine Resources inventory

Issues, challenges and lessons learned focusing to data collection, data gaps and deficiencies, and capacity

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Outline

Day 1

- Profile of fisheries and marine resources for the country
- Brief overview for the focus fisheries
- Issues, Challenges & Lessons learned

DAY 2 & 3

- Type of available data for the focus fisheries:
 - Queen conch
 - Flyingfish
 - Lobster
 - Others
- Sources and quality of Information
- Potential indicators in support of the Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs)

Profile of fisheries and marine resources for the country

Geographical overview	EEZ extension	154,068 km ² ; maximum 200 n.m north
		Caicos Bank – 7,395 km ²
Maritime Domain	National boundaries	Bahamas, Haiti, Dominican Republic
	Main international agreements	
	Joint management plans	
General figures on production sector	Catches	~509 tonnes
	employments	~347 (Commercial Fishers);
Available fisheries in the country	National fleet	~150
	Foreign fleet	0
Stocks assessed		Queen Conch (current)
Trends and issues		Data suggests a steady recovery of Conch stocks.

<Please change text or extend the table at your convenience>

Brief overview for the focus fisheries

Country overall production: 509 tonnes (great underestimation)

Fishery	Percentage from overall country production
Queen Conch	~57%
Flyingfish	
Lobster	~43%
Scalefish (Fin Fish)	Unknown

<Extend table as needed>
<Use one row for each type of fishery targeting a resource>

DAY 2-3

The following slides will be not presented but used in day 2& 3 and for the workshop report)

Type of available data for: Queen conch

Marine Resource

- Stock currently under assessment (analytical phase)

Fishery

- Turks & Caicos EEZ
- Coastal Shallow Waters (0-50m); Benthic; Seagrass Beds and Coral (Patch) Reef
- Queen Conch (*L. gigas*); Milk Conch; Flame Helmet; Tritons Trumpet
- Commercial - small scale / Artisinal; “Other Fishing Vessels”;
- “Miscellaneous gear”; 1 Day trip; Weather Dependant; October to July
- Local Consumption; USA (primary)
- Quota; Export Season; Legal Size
- Landings data suggest a slow recovery
- Adult
- Lobster

<These correspond to FIRMS Concepts. Please see: <http://firms.fao.org/firms/concepts/en>>
<Use one slide for each type of fishery targeting this resource>

Type of available data for: Flyingfish

Marine Resource

- N/A – not utilized

Fishery

- Fishery area
- Characteristics of the fishing ground
- Harvested resources
- Means of production
- Exploitation
- Post-harvest use
- Management (e.g. international agreements, joint management plans...)
- Trend of the fishery
- Fishery lifecycle
- Related fisheries

<These correspond to FIRMS Concepts. Please see: <http://firms.fao.org/firms/concepts/en>>
<Use one slide for each type of fishery targeting this resource>

Type of available data for: Lobster

Marine Resource

- Stock has not been assessed.

Fishery

- Turks & Caicos EEZ
- Coastal – shallow waters (0-50m); Coral Reef, Hard Bottom
- Spiny Lobster (*P. argus*); Spider Crab; Spanish Lobster; Triton's Trumpet; Scalefish
- Commercial - small scale; “Other Fishing Vessels”; Trap/Pot vessels
- Grapling and wounding; 1-7 day trips; Weather dependant; August to March
- Local consumption; USA
- Closed Season; Legal Size; Trap mesh-size, material, biodegradable doors; # of Traps
- Adult; non-spawning; non-molting
- Conch; Scalefish

<These correspond to FIRMS Concepts. Please see: <http://firms.fao.org/firms/concepts/en>>

<Use one slide for each type of fishery targeting this resource>

Type of available data for: <Others>

Marine Resource

- Type of Assessment(s) and State of the Resource

Fishery

- Fishery area
- Characteristics of the fishing ground
- Harvested resources
- Means of production
- Exploitation
- Post-harvest use
- Management (e.g. international agreements, joint management plans...)
- Trend of the fishery
- Fishery lifecycle
- Related fisheries

<Please change “Others” by the species name(s) for which you collected information>
<These correspond to FIRMS Concepts. Please see: <http://firms.fao.org/firms/concepts/en>>
<Use one slide for each type of fishery targeting this resource>

Sources and quality of Information

- Queen conch: Landings Returns (Government Forms) from Processing Plants; Record of Government issued licences
- Flying fish: N/A
- Lobster: Government Forms from Processing Plants
- Others: Currently not monitored

<Please discuss the sources and their quality utilized to fill the Excel inventory>

Potential indicators in support of the Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs)

Fishery indicators		
	Exploitation	Socioeconomic
Indicator Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch Effort Production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Performance Employment Participation Utilization
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch Landed Volume Number Vessels Trawling Hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross Value Added Landed Value Landed Average Price Number Fishermen

<Please highlight which of these indicators would be relevant for your fisheries, and please add others as appropriate. Add additional slides as needed. This slide will be discussed on Day 2>

Issues, Challenges and Lessons learned

Issues & Challenges

- Data gaps
 - Fishery statistics (landings, effort, fleet size)
 - Landings and Effort outside of the Processing Plants
 - Scalefish Statistics
 - Local Consumption
 - Socioeconomic data
 - Product value to fishermen (outside of Processing Plants)
 - Product value to consumers
 - Biological data (lengths, ages, life history)
 - Local spawning seasons and areas (Scalefish)
- Technical capacity (knowledge/information/training)
 - Currently vacant Fisheries Scientist post

<Please fill the slide according to your work experience and issues faced when compiling the Excel inventory>

Issues, Challenges and Lessons learned

Issues & Challenges

- Legal/Policy/Institutional provision
 - Reporting from Processing Plants is required by Law (Conch & Lobster)
 - Illegal fishers
- High turn-over of Departmental staff – data and knowledge gets lost
- Data sharing within the Department can be challenging.

Lesson learned

Data, data, data

<Please fill the slide according to your work experience and issues faced when compiling the Excel inventory>

Thank You!
Gracias!
Merci!